



Advisory Announcement

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2026 POINT GARDNER AND KINGSMILL TEST FISHERIES UPDATE # 4

The Point Gardner and Kingsmill test fisheries are ongoing projects that assess pink and chum salmon abundance returning to Section 9-B and District 10. Test fishing at Point Gardner occurs one day per week for 5 weeks, starting in statistical week 26 (June 21 – June 27). The Point Gardner test fishery has proven to be a very good indicator for pink salmon returning to Frederick Sound and lower Stephens Passage, particularly to District 10. The Kingsmill test fishery occurs one day per week for 4 weeks, starting in statistical week 27 (June 28 – July 4). The Kingsmill test fishery is used as an indicator for salmon runs returning to Frederick Sound and eastern lower Chatham Strait (Section 9-B and District 10). Results from the Kingsmill test fishery are generally less conclusive since the test fishery will catch fish heading north to Frederick Sound and south to Rowan and Tebenkof Bays.

This year, the *F/V Obsession* is conducting both test fisheries.

Point Gardner: The fourth test fishery was conducted on Friday, July 17. All 7 sets were completed. Pink and chum salmon harvests were below the recent 10-year average (2016 – 2025). The male chum salmon sex ratio was 53%. The male pink salmon sex ratio was 73%.

Kingsmill: The third test fishery was conducted on Monday, July 13. All 7 sets were completed. Pink and chum salmon harvests were well below the recent 10-year average. The male chum salmon sex ratio was 49%. The male pink salmon sex ratio was 78%.

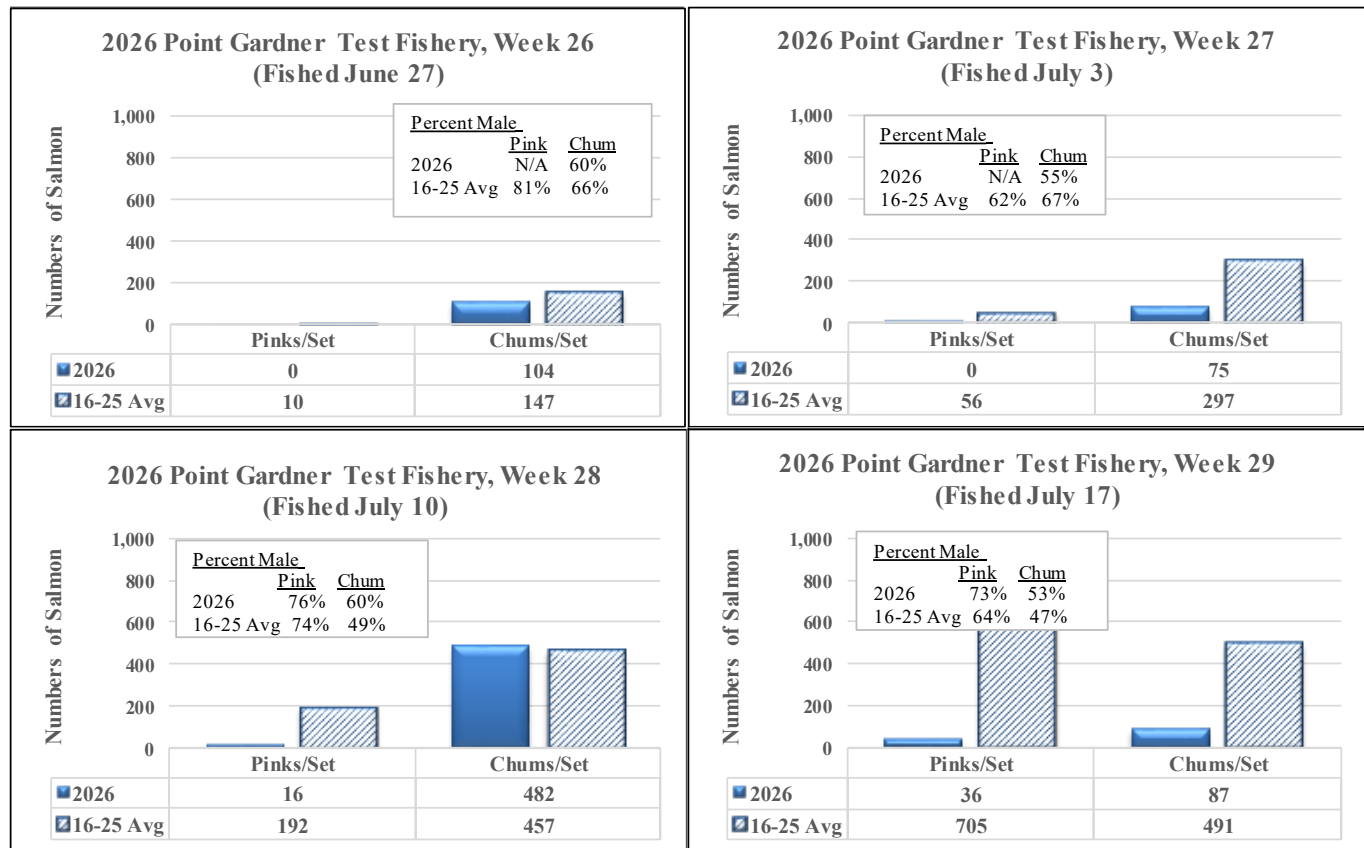
Run Strength: This is the fourth statistical week with generally below average chum salmon harvests and consistently well below average pink salmon harvests. Therefore, the chum salmon run strength appears to be below average, and the pink salmon run strength appears to be well below average.

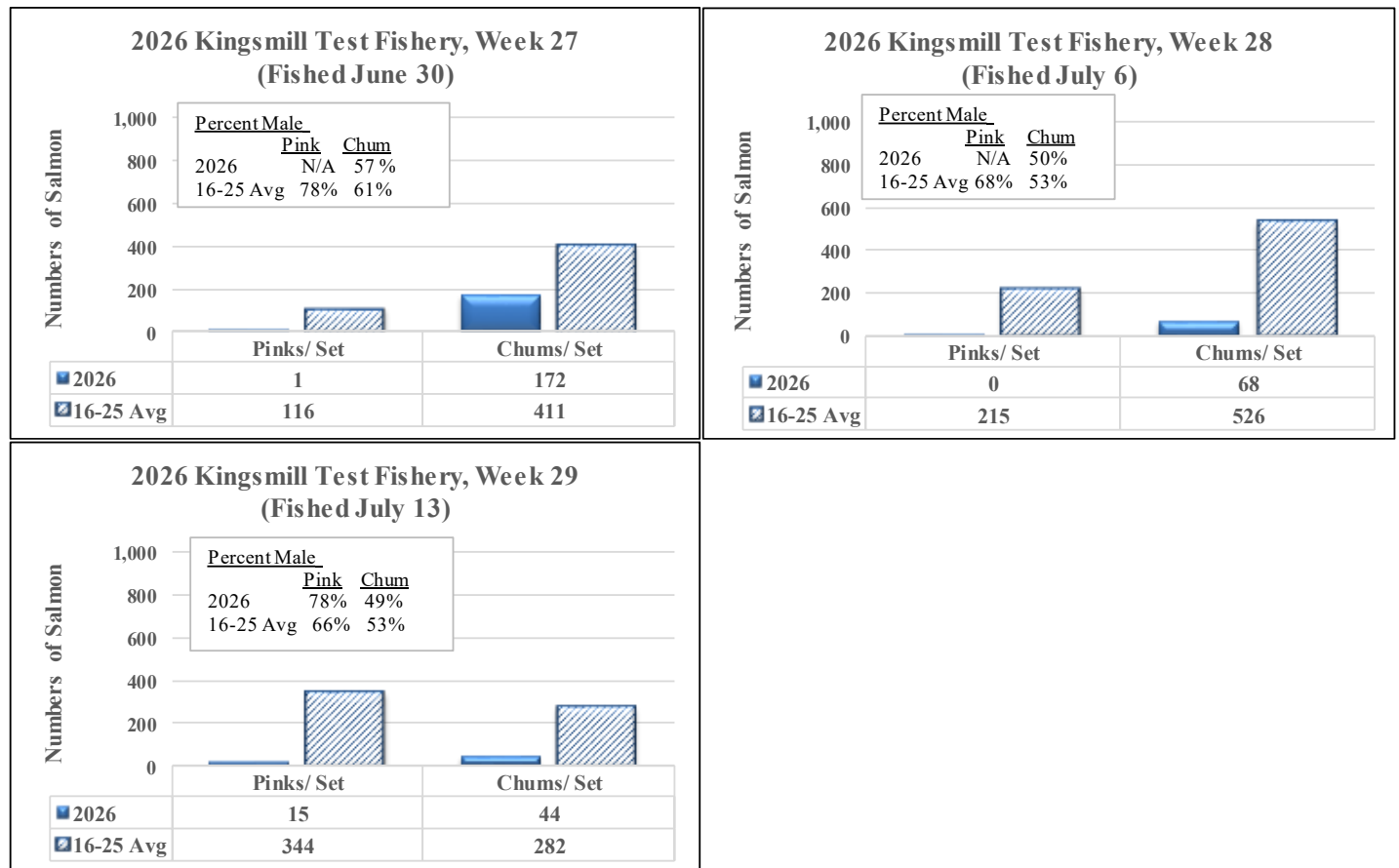
Sex Ratio Sampling: Sex ratio sampling is used as a tool in determining run timing. Numbers of males are higher during the beginning of the run, and females are more numerous during the latter part of the run. Comparing this year's sex ratios to the historical average provides an indication of whether the run is earlier, later, or similar in run timing to previous returns. The generally below average sex ratios for male chum salmon indicate an earlier than normal run timing. The male pink salmon sex ratios suggest a later than average run timing.

Average Weights:

- Kingsmill: unavailable for both pink and chum salmon.
- Point Gardner: unavailable for both pink and chum salmon.

Next Test Fisheries: The next test fisheries are scheduled for Monday, July 20, and Friday, July 24.

Point Gardner:

Kingsmill:

Advisory Announcement web site: <http://www.adfg.alaska.gov/index.cfm?adfg=cfnews.main>.

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